

***Oxytropis campestris* (L.) DC.**
var. *columbiana* (St. John) Barn.
Columbia crazyweed
Fabaceae (Pea Family)

Status: State Endangered

Rank: G5T3S1

General Description: Robust, on a heavy tap root; stipules prevailingly pilose dorsally, the free blades $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long; leaves 3-7 inches long with 11-17 broad lanceolate-oblong to narrowly elliptic leaflets $\frac{1}{3}$ to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch long; scapes erect 8-12 inches long; racemes 10-28 flowered calyx silky-pilose with many dark hairs, $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long, the tube $\frac{3}{16}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, teeth $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{3}{16}$ inch long; corolla white, banner veined and the keel maculate purplish-blue, banner oblanceolate-ovate $\frac{2}{3}$ inch long.

Identification Tips: The closely related *Oxytropis campestris* var. *gracilis* has cream-colored corollas rather than white, that are often less than $\frac{2}{3}$ inch long. The keel petals of *O. campestris* var. *gracilis* are usually not spotted. The leaves generally have 17 leaflets or more and the herbage is not as soft hairy as var. *columbiana*.

Phenology: Flowers in May and June.

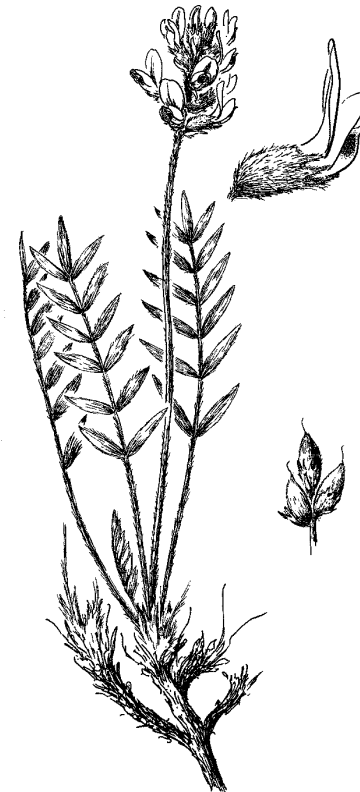
Range: Gravelly banks along the Columbia River from the confluence with the Spokane River north to near the Canadian border in northeastern WA, and around Flathead Lake in north-western Montana. In WA, known recently from Stevens County and historically from Ferry County. Occurs in the Okanogan Highlands physiographic province.

Habitat: Gravel bars and stony river or lake shores, between 1200 and 3000 feet in elevation along the Columbia River above the mouth of the Spokane River.

Ecology: The species is probably dependent on natural water level fluctuations in the rivers and lakes along which it occurs.

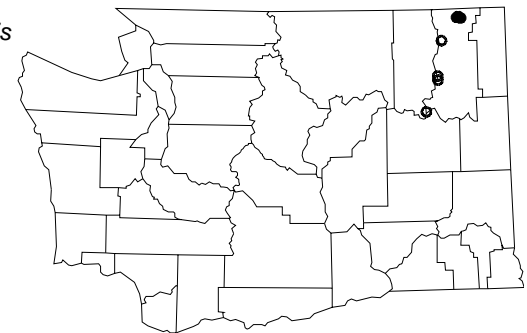
State Status Comments: Most of the populations of *Oxytropis campestris* var. *columbiana* in WA have been extirpated due to habitat destruction by construction of the Grand Coulee Dam.

Oxytropis campestris* var. *columbiana
Columbia crazyweed



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Known distribution of
Oxytropis campestris
var. *columbiana* in
Washington



● Current (1980+)
○ Historic (older than 1980)

Oxytropis campestris* var. *columbiana

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Inventory Needs: Additional inventory is needed throughout northeastern WA.

Threats and Management Concerns: Hydrologic alteration is the largest threat to the species. Residential development along lake shores also poses a threat.

References:

Barneby, R.C. 1952 A revision of the North American species of *Oxytropis* D.C. Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences. 27(7): 177-312.

Elisens, W.J., and J.G. Packer. 1977. A contribution to the taxonomy of the *Oxytropis campestris* complex in northwestern North America. Can. J. Bot. 58: 1820-1831.

Hitchcock, C. L., A. Cronquist, M. Ownbey, and J.W. Thompson. 1961. *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest, Part 3: Saxifragaceae to Ericaceae*. University of Washington Press, Seattle. 614 pp.